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7-27-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Schultz et al.  
Serial No.: 09/679,718  
Filed: September 29, 2000  
For: Illumination System Particularly for  
Microlithography  
Art Unit: 2876  
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Attorney Docket: 637.0001USQ

Date: February 12, 2001

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, we are enclosing form PTO-1449 listing information that may be material to the patentability of this application, filed herewith. We are also enclosing a copy of each of the following U.S. patent Nos. 4,195,913, 4,294,538, 4,389,115, 4,651,012, 4,740,276, 5,148,442, 5,222,112, 5,339,346, 5,361,292, 5,402,267, 5,439,781, 5,440,423, 5,512,759, 5,581,605, 5,647,664, 5,669,708, 5,677,939, 5,737,137, 5,755,503, 5,896,438, 5,993,010 and 5,995,582. Also enclosed are Foreign patent Nos. 0066295A1, 0359018A2, 0939341A2 and 1026547A2. Also enclosed are articles "Synchrotron Radiation Sources and Condensers for Projection X-Ray Lithography" and "Handbook on Synchrotron Radiation".

The following references were either (1) cited by or (2) submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in priority application Serial No.09/305,017, filed May 4, 1999, which is pending.

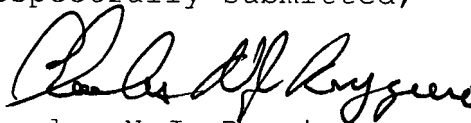
It is applicants' belief that none of the above U.S. and foreign patents and articles describe that which is claimed in the present invention.

It should be understood that attention has been called to the U.S. and foreign patents and articles that have been deemed to be pertinent to the claimed present invention. In concluding what was pertinent, the criteria employed was considered most appropriate in light of the invention shown in the present application. However, the Examiner or others may deem some other criteria to be just as appropriate or more appropriate. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully urged to review the listed U.S. and foreign patents and articles and to make the usual careful independent search for other prior art that may be pertinent.

Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the first office action, no petition or fee is required.

Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and  
that this application be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charles N.J. Ruggiero".

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